

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of~~ A method for treating defective or degenerated cartilage *in vivo*, comprising administering to a subject a mixture of (i) one or more substances of group A) A selected from the group consisting of lubricin, proteoglycan 4 (PRG4) and phospholipids (SAPL); and (ii) with one or more substances of group B) B selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, glycosaminoglycan and derivatives of these substances, wherein said substances are dissolved in a solvent, for the production of an agent for treating defective or degenerated cartilage *in vivo*.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to~~ method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said phospholipids are surface active in nature.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to~~ method of ~~claims~~ claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said hyaluronic acid has a molecular weight of at least  $1 \times 10^6$  Da.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to one~~ method ~~of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ratio by weight of the substances of group A to the substances of group B ranges from 0.05 to 0.40.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to one~~ method ~~of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ratio by weight of the substances of group A to the substances of group B ranges from 0.08 to 0.25.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to one~~ method ~~of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5,~~ ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said solvent is a Ringer solution, ~~preferably or a~~ physiological salt solution.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to one~~ method ~~of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 6,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the concentration of the substances of group A dissolved in the solvent ~~range~~ ranges from 0.02 to 0.05 % by weight.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of one method of the claims claim 1 to 7,~~  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the concentration of the substances of group B dissolved in the  
solvent ~~range~~ ranges from 0.2 to 0.4% by weight.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of A method for the production of a natural~~  
cartilage replacement material, comprising dissolving in a solvent a mixture of (i) one or  
more substances of group A) A selected from the group consisting of lubricin, proteoglycan 4  
(PRG4) and phospholipids (SAPL); and (ii) ~~with~~ one or more substances of group  
~~B) A selected from the group consisting of~~ hyaluronic acid, glycosaminoglycan and  
derivatives of these substances ~~dissolved in a solvent, for the production of natural cartilage~~  
~~replacement in vitro.~~

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Method for the production of a cartilage replacement~~  
~~material for cartilage defects in the joint region using a mixture~~ The method of claim 9,  
~~characterized in that wherein said natural cartilage replacement material comprises~~  
an open-pored, elastic cell-carrier body is populated in its pores with chondrocytes, and  
wherein a said mixture of claim 9, dissolved in a physiologically acceptable solvent, is  
brought into contact with the chondrocytes.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, ~~characterized in that the~~  
wherein said solvent is moved over the cell-carrier body with a laminar flow.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claims claim~~ 10 or 11, ~~characterized in~~  
~~that, wherein~~ by means of a joint-like device, an axial and a rotational force is exerted  
simultaneously on the cell-carrier body.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, ~~characterized in that wherein~~  
the ~~rotation of the joint-like device~~ rotational force is carried out about two axes, which are  
orthogonal to one another.

14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture comprises lubricin and  
hyaluronic acid.

15. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the mixture comprises lubricin and  
hyaluronic acid.

16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture comprises lubricin and hyaluronic acid.

17. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the mixture comprises lubricin and glycosaminoglycan.